

Remarks

claims 10, 16, 28 and 34 are canceled. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce them at a later time or in another application.

5 The related applications section has been amended to include serial numbers that were not included at the time the present application was filed.

10 In the second paragraph, Examiner objected to the drawings. Figure 7 has been added showing the elements requested by Examiner, and duplicating Examples 3 and 4, and the text of the specification has been amended adding references to the existing text to refer to Figure 7. The first first identifier can be identifier 1. The second first identifier can be identifier 2. The third (now
15 first) at least one of the at least one second object can be object type 1.

20 In the third paragraph of the Official Action, Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 101. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite computer implemented methods. Dependent claims 2-8, 11-15 and 17-18 are also amended.

 In the fourth and fifth paragraphs of the Official Action, Examiner rejected claims 1-36 under 35 U.S.C. 112,

second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully
traversed. Examiner's comments a) and b) confuse breadth
with indefiniteness. As set forth in M.P.E.P. 2173.04,
breadth is not indefiniteness. The source of the plurality
5 of objects can be anything and so can the recipient. That
makes the claim broad, not indefinite, because "receiving a
plurality of objects" is clear, as required by M.P.E.P.
2173.04. Similarly, providing a first set of information
is also clear, and its source can be anything and so can
10 its recipient, which makes the claim broad, not indefinite.

The subject of Examiner's comment c is understood by
reading line 5. The object in line 6 is the "each" in line
5, which has been specified in line 5 as each of "the
plurality of objects" of line 3. Thus, the claim is not
15 indefinite.

The subject of Examiner's comment d is understood by
the fact that the information related to the object follows
the first identifier; and the second identifier follows the
information related to the object. Thus, the order is a)
20 the first identifier, b) information related to the object,
and c) the second identifier. Thus, the claim is not
indefinite.

The subject of Examiner's comment e is understood by reading line 2 of claim 2: the identifiers are returned unchanged.

5 The subject of Examiner's comment f is made clear by reading claim 6 as if it is appended to the end of claim 1: the second object type has the third identifier. The claim does not specify whether it has any other identifiers: it has the third one and that is clear.

10 The subject of Examiner's comment g is understood by thinking of the "at least one object" as a "set of at least one object". One can have a "first set", and that is not grammatically incorrect, so a "first at least one object" is also not grammatically incorrect. A "first at least one object" is different from a "first one of the at least one
15 object".

Examiner's comment h is made moot by the amendment to the claim.

Examiner's comment i again confuses breadth with indefiniteness. The pair of first identifiers are simply
20 located in lines 3 and 4. Their breadth does not make the claim unclear. If a pair of identifiers are located, that falls within the scope of that claim element.

The subject of Examiner's comment j again confuses breadth with indefiniteness. The pair of first identifiers are located in lines 3 and 4 of claim 9, and then referred to as the "pair of first identifiers located" in lines 5 and 6 of claim 9.

The subject of Examiner's comment k is made moot by the amendment referring to the first at least one object.

The subject of Examiner's comment l is understood by the same reasoning as that explained for claim 1.

10 The subject of Examiner's comment in paragraph 5 is understood by looking at line 3 of claim 9, where antecedent basis for "a pair of first identifiers" is plainly introduced.

15 The claim language of "second at least one first object" etc. appears to be causing Examiner some confusion, so such language has been minimized, and claims have been canceled to achieve rapid allowance of the case.

Thus, Examiner is requested to withdraw the 112 rejection.

20 In the sixth through thirty ninth paragraphs of the Official Action, Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-13, 15-22, 24-31, and 33-36 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious

over U.S. Patent 5,907,837 issued to Ferrel ("Ferrel").

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claims 1 and 19 recite, "providing a first set of information comprising:

5 a first identifier; information related to the object, following the first identifier; and a second identifier, following the information related to the object."

These claimed features mean the information related to the second object is located between the first and second
10 identifiers. This feature is not shown by Ferrel, as Examiner admits.

Examiner proposes a modification to Ferrel that would include a pair of identifiers instead of the single identifier of Ferrel, but there are two problems with thus
15 proposed modification. First, it is nowhere taught or suggested by Ferrel. Examiner's reason essentially states that if Ferrel had the features of Applicants' invention, it would be better. But Examiner Ferrel nowhere states this, and Ferrel's identifiers have the luxury of sitting
20 in a database table: there is no advantage to Ferrel to having two identifiers rather than one. Examiner impermissibly reconstructs Applicants' invention with his

proposed modification: there is really no such benefit to so modifying Ferrel.

Another reason that Examiner's argument fails is that, even if Ferrel were so modified by adding a pair of
5 identifiers, there is no motivation to provide the information between the identifiers as claimed. The identifiers could be together, with the information following, for example. Thus, even if Ferrel did teach the modification proposed by Examiner, which it does not, the
10 claimed ordering of information relative to the two identifiers would still not be taught.

Thus, for either or both of the reasons set forth above, claims 1 and 19 are patentably distinguishable over Ferrel. Because claims 2-4 and 6-8 depend from claim 1,
15 and claims 20-22 and 24-26 depend from claim 19, claims 1-4, 6-8, 19-22 and 24-26 are patentably distinguishable over Ferrel.

Regarding claims 9 and 27, as amended, claim 9 recites, "locating a pair of first identifiers in the
20 information received from the server; and associating information between the pair of first identifiers located with the first at least one object corresponding to the pair of first identifiers."

As amended, claim 27 recites, "computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to:

locate a pair of first identifiers in the information received from the server; and associate information between
5 the pair of first identifiers located with the first at least one object corresponding to the pair of first identifiers."

Neither the steps of claim 9 nor the computer program product of claim 27 is disclosed by Ferrel. Column 4,
10 lines 53-56 does not describe locating any information between identifiers as claimed. Examiner admits that the pair of identifiers is not shown by Ferrel, and so locating information between such a pair is not taught or suggested by Ferrel.

15 Again, the motivation Examiner uses is nowhere suggested by Ferrel: Examiner is impermissibly using Applicant's invention to propose the combination. Furthermore, there is no reason to make the combination as noted above.

20 Because Ferrel does not locate such information, Ferrel also does not associate any information so located.

Thus, claims 9 and 27 are patentably distinguishable over Ferrel. Because claims 11-15 and 17-18 depend from

claim 9, and claims 29-33 and 35-36 depend from claim 27,
claims 9, 11-15, 17-18, 27, 29-33 and 35-36 are patentably
distinguishable over Ferrel.

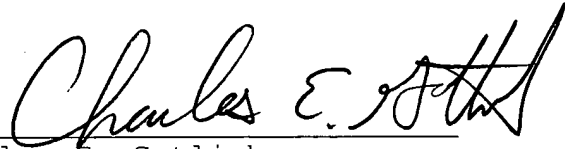
In the fortieth through forty-third paragraph of the
5 official action, Examiner rejected claims 5, 14, 23, and 32
under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferrel in
view of U.S. Patent 5,907,837 issued to Clark ("Clark").

Examiner relies on the rejections above for the
features of claims 1, 9, 19, and 27 described above. As
10 noted above Ferrel does not disclose the features of 1, 9,
19, and 27 and Examiner does not assert that Clark
discloses these features either. Thus, the combination of
Ferrel and Clark does not disclose the features of claims
5, 14, 23, and 32.

15 Claims 1-9, 11-15, 17-27, 29-33 and 34-36 remaining in
the case are allowable over the cited references and are
also in condition for allowance. Favorable action is
solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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